

Montana Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS)

Large Conference Room, Office of the Court Administrator

301 S. Park, Third Floor, Helena, MT

Sept. 23, 2019, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Presiding Officer, District Court Judge Dan Wilson, called the meeting to order at 1:15. We adjourned at 4:10.

Members Present: Judge Dan Wilson, Sue Bailey, Dawn Larimer, Theresa Baldry, Cindy Nickol, Jennifer Crowley, Michael Hagenlock, Erin MacLean (phone), (Dr. Roman Hendrickson called in but was disconnected due to technical issues.)

Staff: Sarah McClain

Interested Parties: Angie Wagenhals, Isaac Baldry, Heather O'Hara, Adrienne Cotton, Jackie Boyle Jones, Beth Brenneman, Patty Fain (phone), (Nate McConnell called in but was disconnected due to technical issues.)

Introductions: Members, Interested Parties

Background/Overview of Montana WINGS

WINGS Members shared their top concerns and priorities regarding the adult guardianship and conservatorship systems in Montana: need to update Montana's outdated laws; lack of resources, especially in rural areas; need for education at all levels; concerns of liability; emphasis on less-restrictive alternatives such as supported decision-making; lack of standard forms and guides for courts and the public; partner with volunteer agencies such as AARP and court programs such as the Self-Help Centers; protect rights of privacy as well as need for transparency; identify other stakeholders; and need for more data and statistics.

Subcommittees Identified: (Judge Wilson as Presiding Officer of each subcommittee.)

1. Education
 - a. Examine what other states are doing. Review report by VISTA Volunteer Jared Nepal. (Sue, Dawn)
 - b. Investigate and describe resources available to assess Alternatives to Guardianship including Support Decision Making models and Agency alternatives. (Theresa, Jennifer, Erin)
 - c. Forms (Judge Wilson, Michael, Cindy)
2. Legislative (All)
 - a. Identify interested parties.
 - b. Arrange presenter for next meeting.
 - c. Keep Fiscal impact in mind.

Next Meeting: Quarterly – Sarah to send a poll to the group. Theresa offered her Zoom account for remote participants.